



PATENT
Attorney Docket No.2121-154P

#6c 2/23/02
T.Gray

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Marc DE BLOCK) Conf.: 3779
Serial No.:09/461,416) Group Art Unit: 1661
Filed: December 16, 1999) Examiner: W. Baker
For: Genetic Transformation)
Using a PARP Inhibitor)

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RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 4, 2002

Dear Sir:

In complete response to the Official Action mailed October 2, 2001, the time for responding to which has been extended by the accompanying Petition for Extension of Time and fee, kindly amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

C 1 Sub D1
24. (Once Amended) A method for assessing the agronomical fitness of a plant comprising the steps of:

- a.) subjecting an explant of said plant to a stress condition;
- b.) measuring the electron flow in the mitochondrial electron transport chain to assess agronomical fitness in cells of said explant of said plant;